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Opposition Continues to Depot Crossing Development

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Despite the fact Mark Gross of MHF Design, representing Depot Crossing Development, had an email in hand from the state Department of Transportation, stating driveway permits had been approved and the permits would be delivered the next day, the Hampstead Planning Board chose not to vote on the project until they had the permits. The hearing was continued to the next scheduled meeting, Nov. 5.

The project calls for a 4,800-square-foot, multi-use commercial development with a 2,392-square-foot convenience store with gasoline station; a 1,245-square-foot restaurant with drive through; and a 1,200-square-foot unspecified re-

tail space. The location is zoned for commercial development but the 4-acre parcel is surrounded by residential dwellings across both Main Street and Hampstead Road, where a Derry residence abuts the parcel.

Abutters from both towns have raised the same objections to this plan as they did for one presented and denied 10 years ago, arguing that nothing has changed. Their main complaints concern safety at the “failed” intersection from increased traffic volume; increased noise and light disturbing the residential peace and quiet; and diminished property values abetted by the potential for increased crime from the sale of alcohol and tobacco at the convenience store.

Gross responded to the questions he had been

handed from the last discussion of the plan concerning Ordway Park and well locations and at the Paz property across from the development on park property. Also debated was a recent traffic study from the developer that claims traffic has decreased over the decade, a finding opposed by many residents.

Board member Bill Weber said he did some research and his findings showed that Hampstead and the surrounding towns of Chester, Sandown and Derry had all increased in population and were on track to increase even more, thus making a finding of decreased traffic not credible. He asked the board to contract and pay for an independent traffic study.

The board voted 3 to 2
continued on page 2

Dover Man Charged in Murder of Chester Teen

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Though authorities and volunteers came together last week to search for a missing Chester girl, 19-year-old Elizabeth “Lizzi” Marriott was pronounced dead on Saturday, Oct. 13, and an arrest was made in her murder.

Marriott hailed from Westborough, Mass., but was living in Chester with her aunt and uncle in order to commute to the University of New Hampshire, where she was studying marine biology. Marriott was a sophomore in her first semester at UNH.

She was declared missing on the night of Tuesday, Oct. 9, after sending a text message at 10:11 p.m. to a

friend in Dover saying that she was on her way to visit. According to Chester police chief Bill Burke, she left a note with her aunt and uncle stating that she’d be back in Chester around midnight and when she didn’t return, they contacted Chester police.

Chester began a search for the girl, led by officer Nicholas McLellan. Burke noted that information they obtained indicated that it wasn’t in Marriott’s character not to come home. He said she was a responsible girl, working to pay for her schooling and car.

Things developed quickly in the case, said Burke. State and federal authorities, including the New Hampshire Attorney General, Federal Bureau of Inves-

tigation and the State Police Major Crime Unit, stepped in to lend a hand. Police departments in Dover and Portsmouth also helped.

Volunteers began working together to send out missing person posters and to set up a Facebook page, all asking for information on the disappearance. A group set up in the municipal building’s meeting room to do whatever they could to help out.

In the early hours of the search, police spoke with Seth Mazzaglia, 29, of Dover, who, along with another unidentified friend, Marriott was supposed to visit Oct. 9. Mazzaglia said she never arrived, but the story didn’t sit well with police. State troopers returned to Mazza-
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SEEING YELLOW Sandown Recreation Director Deb Brown finishes off the construction Monday afternoon of some of the hundreds of signs announcing the Town Wide Yard Sale. Residents will see the signs spring up throughout town on Saturday as residents prepare for the sale. See story on page 11.

Photo by Chris Paul

Homeless Program Seeks Financial Help from Sandown

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – A group of churches and community leaders have been organizing for the past couple years in an effort to provide a service that many say is crucially lacking in the area, a place for homeless families to go.

Family Promise of Greater Rockingham County is working to provide a roof over the heads of peo-

ple who have found themselves without, and president Melanie Nesheim met with the board of selectmen Oct. 1 to explain their work and ask for some help in the coming year.

Nesheim said families are the fastest growing group in the homeless population, with at least 158 in the area. Family Promise is looking to serve. That’s up from 78 in 2010, she said. And there’s just no place for them to go. Often towns

end up housing the homeless in hotels.

Family Promise plans not only to provide shelter but also life skills, counseling, job search support and other services.

To accomplish this, a group of 15 congregations in the area, through an Interfaith Hospitality Network, have agreed to provide space and volunteers to serve those in need. Instead of erecting a permanent
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Hampstead Schools Exceed Adequacy Standards

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – On Oct. 1, the New Hampshire Department of Education released its 2012 Adequacy Report, giving the status of New Hampshire public schools and whether they are providing the opportunity for an adequate education as defined in state law. An overall performance

score of 2.3 indicated the opportunity for an adequate education for elementary and middle schools - Hampstead Central School scored 2.8 and Hampstead Middle School had a score of 3.

Assistant Superintendent Winfried Feneberg expressed his satisfaction with the Hampstead scores.

"We easily cleared the hurdles in the Adequacy Report and we do provide

an adequate education based on this standard," he said. "Both schools easily scored above the required 2.3, and all but nine schools scored the 2.3 or above throughout the state. We are pleased with our schools' performance in this report."

Elementary and middle schools were judged on six categories:

- Reading growth
- Mathematics growth

- Science index
- Writing index
- Assessment participation

- Excessive absence.

Reading and mathematics growth accounted for 60 percent of a school's total score.

The minimum score for a high school is 2.1. Pinkerton received a score of 2.6 and was deemed to provide an "adequate education."

Depot

continued from page 1

against the motion, with Proctor Wentworth, Dean Howard and Neil Emerson opposed.

Weber said, "We need to get it right and have accurate facts."

The board, while declining to vote on the project Monday night, agreed to allow the residents' attorney, Scott Hogan, to speak. Hogan

said the board has an obligation to make a determination that this new plan is materially different from the plan the previous board denied, a denial that was upheld by the Superior Court. He questioned whether the board has made that determination, but both Chairman Randy Clark and Gross said they had decided there were material differences.

Gross said the material differences are the overall

size, mass, character, and architecture, and the fact there is less traffic today than a decade ago.

Hogan said the board also has to determine whether this plan has a regional impact and whether Derry has been properly noticed.

Gross responded that Derry was sent a certified abutters' notice.

Hogan said the court had focused on only one of the planning board's four reasons for denial, the one that said the project's scale and scope overwhelmed the area and had a debilitating impact on the abutters, the surrounding area and the town environment, and then went on to focus on the safety concerns centered on the intersection.

He said there was more traffic information relative to intersection accidents from the Hampstead Police Department and questioned whether school buses and students driving to Pinkerton Academy were included.

Residents again voiced concerns over safety, noise, traffic, increased light, and the

potential for increased crime. One resident asked if the developers had done any research on the increase of crime in neighborhoods after a store selling alcohol opened, and Gross said they had not.

Resident Molly Allen said there are concerns about diminished property values, contamination from gas spills and leaks for neighboring wells and for increased litter as well as noise, traffic and lights. She said Hampstead doesn't need another gas station, as there are five within five miles already.

Cynthia Neale agreed, and asked the planning board to "abide by the law, but also envision preserving the history and enhancing the quality of life in Hampstead. Too many developments have run amuck with sprawl and pollution in our town and country through greed and lack of vision."

Several residents made the point that they did not oppose all commercial development at that location. They said they oppose this plan but think other, less disruptive commercial developments would be better suited.

OBITUARY

Former Sandown Fire Chief Irving Bassett Dies



Irving C. Bassett, 71, a lifelong resident of Sandown, died Oct. 13, 2012.

He was the youngest of 16 children, born in Sandown on Sept. 16, 1941 to the late Raymond and Priscilla (Knights) Bassett.

He was a U.S. Army veteran and served during the Vietnam Era.

He was a 55-year member of the Sandown Fire Department, where he served 24 years as Chief. He served as Deputy Forest Fire Warden and later Forest Fire Warden for 24 years. He was also a member of the Rockingham County Fire Wardens Association, serving many years as president.

He was co-chairman and instrumental in the building of the new fire station in Sandown. He worked as a plumber for many years and served as a plumbing inspector for the Town of Sandown for a number of years. In addition, he served as a Sandown Road Agent for several years and was a Sandown cemetery sexton for over 30 years.

In 1999, he was named Citizen of the Year.

He loved his involvement with the fire department and other town functions. He enjoyed gardening and spending time around his home.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Katherine (Doncaster) Bassett of Sandown; one son, Michael Bassett and his wife, Beverly, of Sarasota, Fla.; one daughter, Amy Bassett and her husband, Jim Bivona, of Dunbarton; one grandson, Matthew; two sisters, Martha Sargent of Springfield, Va., and Eleanor Bassett of Sandown; six brothers, Donald Bassett of Northwood, Wendell Bassett of Epsom, William Bassett of Greensboro, Ga., Kenneth Bassett of Sandown, David Bassett of Hampstead, and Carroll Bassett of Sandown; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and his beloved dog, Skyla. He was predeceased by seven siblings, Hazel Marlow, Charles Bassett, Raymond S. Bassett, Richard Bassett, Robert Bassett, Norman Bassett, and Eva Phillips.

Calling hours were Wednesday, Oct. 17, from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry. Funeral services will be held Thursday, Oct. 18, at 10:30 a.m. in St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, Route 121A, Sandown. Burial will follow in Center Cemetery, Sandown. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Sandown Fire and Rescue Association, P.O. Box 1756, Sandown, NH 03873. To send a condolence or for more information, visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

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Residents, Student Take Stand on School Board Comments

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – A couple of parents and a seventh grader offered their comments to the School Board concerning its recent decision to eliminate the Assistant Principal job at Hampstead Central School.

At the Tuesday, Oct. 9, board meeting, HMS seventh grader Mackenzie Finocchiaro, a member of the student council, said she had asked her parents for permission to address the board. She noted several concerns she has about board decisions after watching School Board meetings on cable.

“One thing is not counting preschool for a headcount for a replacement vice principal at HCS (Hampstead Central School),” she said. “First of all, I was once in preschool, and I wasn’t a ghost. I existed, and so did all of my fellow classmates. And the current preschool-

ers exist, just like I did.

“Second, I have had some struggles in the past at HMS, and Mr. (Owen) Harrington has really helped me through those troubles,” she said of the HMS assistant principal. “Since he is not at the school five days a week, I will not get the help I need in the time that I may need it.

“When I listen to the school board meetings, I always hear about cut, cut, cutting the school budget,” she said. “What is next? Cutting out band, chorus, Ventures?”

She also noted board members’ comments about minimum requirements.

“My parents will not accept a day when I come home from school saying, ‘I did just the minimum requirements,’” she said. “Please stop talking about adequate education for me and my fellow students, because what you are saying is affecting our future. Please reconsider your approach on your message,

because ‘times are tough in our school’ and we need all the help we can get from the school board, which is you.”

Suzanne Finocchiaro addressed the board as well, saying her daughter spoke for herself. She then started to respond to a comment School Board member Jim Stewart made at a previous meeting when she was stopped by board member Natalie Gallo, who read the Hampstead School Board “Participation at School Board Meetings” proposed policy into the record. Chairman Judy Graham then asked Assistant Superintendent Winfried Feneberg for his opinion on allowing continued comment.

He said that as long as comments are kept to the three minute limit and are not complaints or disparaging, it would be best to allow public comment to go forward unimpeded.

Suzanne Finocchiaro said her comments were in reference to Stewart’s statement that some people in Hampstead don’t believe they are getting full value for the money spent on education.

She said she wanted to offer examples of how school administrators work to save the townspeople money, and referenced the recent Project Respect event and the work of Facilities Director Michael Hall.

She said administration and staff are diligent in their efforts to reduce the budget, and suggested more information should be supplied to residents about the downshifting of retirement system costs from the state to the towns and school district so they would understand its impact on the homeowner.

Mary Stenson, a former board member, told the board people needed to remember that a school board meeting is a private meeting held in public.

And Jason Cipriano told the board he was heartened by the board’s response to the fact that while science

scores were better than state averages, the board thinks they are not good enough for Hampstead. He said the board should focus on strengthening the schools and delivering the best quality education for students possible, and to support the staff and the students in that effort.

The School Board’s Public Comment Policy includes a form that persons wishing to speak at meetings must sign and submit to the recording secretary prior to the public comment portion of the agenda. The policy notes a “public comment” period of 10 minutes, with individuals allowed to comment up to 3 minutes unless waived by the board. Comments by the public are restricted to school operations and programs – not complaints about any person connected with the

school system. The policy also states the chair may terminate remarks when they do not adhere to rules.

In addition, the policy states that board members cannot act independently and while questions can be directed to one member, the answer must come from the full board. The policy also notes that board meetings are conducted by Robert’s Rules, and abusive or defamatory remarks, demonstrations, disorderly conduct or interruptions will be ruled out of order, and the individual will forfeit remaining comment time.

Feneberg said parents and other residents should be encouraged to attend meetings and express their concerns or ask questions. “I think the board should let people from the public who want to speak have the opportunity to speak,” he said.

Recycling on the Rise

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Recycling and Waste Disposal Committee is pleased the tipping fee is down 7 percent, and recycling numbers are up at 26 percent two month in a row.

Member Ellen Cabral said the 2011 recycling average was 20 percent; so far this year it is 23 percent.

While bulk disposal has increased at the Kent Farm Road facility, the committee noted that bulk curbside pickup was averaging three pieces a month, as expected.

Cabral has created a recycling brochure the committee plans to distribute. She noted that Hampstead was sixth out of 50 in the RecycleBank contest for a \$100,000 prize.

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Editorial

Letters Always Welcome

This year's Presidential Election has generated a landslide of letters, compared to the missives normally sent our way each week. We are doing our best to include all of those we receive that meet our guidelines – often holding feature stories and photos for later weeks so that we can print your letters in a timely fashion.

We appreciate the fact that readers – and letter writers – see the important role played by a local community newspaper and use it as a great way to share their views with their neighbors. Because this paper arrives free in every home, it's an easy way to communicate with and make your views known to people who share the same zip code.

We are surprised, however, that each time the Presidential campaigns roll around, letters on Presidential candidates dominate. No question that who will be President is a big decision for voters, but the surprise is that we don't receive many letters on local races, whether it's for state representative, state senator, or even for governor.

In recent years, John Lynch had the gubernatorial race pretty much sewn up, but when he decided not to seek re-election, that changed. Voters in New Hampshire have a clear choice this year. Yet it's rare that we receive a letter on that contest.

Even more locally, the state representative and state senate races are all

contested, but seem to attract hardly any notice. And yet, while the Presidential race will result in decisions with national and international importance, the day to day decision making that affects our pocketbooks comes straight out of Concord.

For example, are your taxes going up to pay State Retirement? That's due to a decision in Concord to downshift those costs to towns and school districts. Regardless of whether Obama or Romney win, or Guinta or Shea-Porter, the problem of downshifting rests on the legislature and the governor.

Do you want the state involved in legalized gambling to raise money? What about revisiting same sex marriage? And the big one, school funding?

The decisions on these issues come from our legislators in Concord.

Maybe our readers' decisions on legislative and gubernatorial candidates are so clear that it seems unnecessary to write letters about those races. If we've all done our homework and chosen candidates based on issues, that's good. Meanwhile, we'll continue to welcome your letters on the Obama-Romney and other races for another week, and we particularly enjoy receiving letters responding to stories and issues we raise in these pages.

Thank you for reading, and thank you especially for writing.

Letters

Candidate's Views

To the editor:

I am running for State Senate in District 23, the towns of Brentwood, Chester, Danville, Epping, East Kingston, Exeter, Fremont, Kingston, and Sandown.

I am the parent who initiated and worked to pass New Hampshire's new anti-bullying law. In 2011, the current leadership in Concord tried to weaken the new anti-bullying law. I led the effort to fight this, and we won. This year I was instrumental in legislation that added language to the Charter School law guaranteeing charter school students due process rights.

I did this work as a parent and a New Hampshire citizen, and I did this work in Concord with bipartisan support. I know what it takes to cross the aisle and I know what it takes to get things done in Concord. Combined with my 30 years of community service experience and my 22 years of business experience, I have the experience and the commitment to serve the families of this District.

In Concord, the current Senate leadership cares more about big tobacco than they do about our kids. New Hampshire lost \$20 million in revenues this year, yet they raised college tuition for our kids. Education is the backbone of New Hampshire; we need our kids ready for a 21st century workforce. Quality education will attract business to New Hampshire, and I want a vibrant middle class in New Hampshire with great paying jobs. I want affordable, accessible health care because healthy New Hampshire families are economically stable.

We cannot afford the political party agenda in Concord any longer. I am committed to working together to solve the challenges facing our families and our New Hampshire economy.

I will be a full-time Senator in Concord, and in the communities of District 23. I ask for your vote on Nov. 6.

Carol Croteau
State Senate Candidate
District 23
Kingston

Vote for Obama

To the editor:

A big difference between a corporation and a democracy is fairness. A corporation is only being beholden to shareholders to generate a profit. A democracy is being beholden to all citizens, and in the U.S., all citizens are created equal.

A big difference between President Obama and Mitt Romney's leadership is fairness. Although Romney demonstrates an excellent record of making a profit for his shareholders, his leadership of all citizens remains questionable. The recent Romney statement about ignoring the 47 percent of the population he believes are freeloaders because they get some government benefit was yet one more reason to distrust his sense of fairness for all citizens.

Obama demonstrates a deep understanding of fairness and equality. President Obama reaches out to all people residing in the U.S., regardless of class, race, age, sexual preference, or place of birth. He has enacted laws and initiatives such as Lily Ledbetter, DADT, turning the auto industry around and investing in affordable and accessible health care for all. The Affordable Care Act plan is designed to contain our soaring medical costs over time – not designed to increase our taxes.

In my community I see individuals who rely upon their government for fairness – they are not freeloaders. They are citizens, parents, hard-working employees who are struck by terminal illnesses. These friends, without deep pockets, struggle every day with the pain of their illnesses and the terror that health care costs will leave them bankrupt.

If you look closely within your community you may see this also – that bad things happen to good people. A balanced and fair government looks at both a sound fiscal budget and levels the playing field. That is why we have a democracy and not a corporation governing all our people.

Please support President Obama with your vote.

Kathleen Pynn
Hampstead

Croteau for Senate

To the editor:

We are writing to encourage voters in New Hampshire State Senate District 23 (Brentwood, Chester, Danville, Epping, East Kingston, Exeter, Fremont, Kingston, and Sandown) to support Carol Croteau on Nov. 6. Although we live in an adjacent district, we know Carol well from her 2010 campaign to be a state rep from Kingston, Hampstead, and Plaistow, and we believe it is important to have such a tireless champion of the middle class in the New Hampshire Senate.

Carol is widely known as one of the main architects of New Hampshire's anti-bullying law and was its main defender when legislative tinkers in both houses almost succeeded in diluting its provisions and weakening the protection and privacy of young bullying victims. Her effective advocacy for the existing law was a foreshadowing of how she might manage complex issues in the Senate, where an objective, fact-based weighing of issues is so critical to achieving good outcomes.

Carol is also very strong in her convictions, but makes a concerted effort to gather input from others who may know more about an issue than she thinks she does. This enables her to define her own positions on information more substantive than narrow ideological assessments, something to which the current legislature has too often defaulted.

What matters most to Carol is what is best for her district and for New Hampshire. Carol believes that simplistic ideological slogans represent the thinking that led to bad legislation, such as the reduction in the cigarette tax and its subsequent loss of over \$20 million in state revenue. That lost revenue would have gone to much needed bridge and road maintenance, instead of going directly to cigarette manufacturers who simply raised their prices when the tax was cut.

She would support legislation that actually creates jobs and offers incentives to build businesses, not just bills designed to shrink state gov-

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The Tri-Town Times is a weekly publication. It is mailed to every home in the towns of Chester, Hampstead and Sandown free of charge.

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Letters

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ernment by downshifting necessary spending (like support for public education) to the towns or individual tuition payers.

A vote for Carol is a vote for common sense, a pragmatic approach to governing, and an open mind.

A vote for her opponent is a vote for corporate interests and inflexible ideological concessions to a partisan base over broader local interests.

Please choose Carol Croteau for the New Hampshire Senate on Nov. 6.

Andrew & Carolyn Weir
Hampstead

Who is Romney?

To the editor:

Voters, in this, the most important decision that Americans can make, we find ourselves with a perplexing choice.

Do we choose the man who has set down his plan, lined up his support, and set out a vision of his administration...Mitt Romney...who in a single two hour debate changed, or should I say disavowed, much of his own fiscal plan? Denying it is "not my plan." He looked us in the eye and blinked, he chose a new path. He said his plan for a middle class tax cut (that would cost \$4.7 trillion over 10 years) really has never existed.

He also stated he would repeal the Affordable Care Act on "Day One," yet now Governor Romney says some of it must stay. Now he is taking credit for the fact his plan was what the Affordable Care Act was based on, although all through the primaries he avoided taking any credit for the RomneyCare plan, a plan that had been put forth by many Republicans in the past and encouraged by the ever conservative Heritage Foundation.

Who is this man? Governor Romney seems to change his direction every single day. Just today, in an interview posted from the Des Moines

Register, he said that, "There's no legislation with regards to abortion that I'm familiar with that would become part of my agenda." In the past he has been pro-choice, and then when it looked like he would run for President, he was staunchly against pro-choice.

I truly wish I knew who he really is, and what he really stands for. It must have been easy in early American elections to make statements and then change them because the media was slow to catch discrepancies and "flips." Now it is easy to check facts online and, even using the candidate's own website, confirm what has been said and proposed.

Romney has truly given us cause to think. We do not really know who and what he really stands for. Which Romney would one be voting for? It is difficult to think he will change his past habits if elected and be forthright with us, since he has had difficulties being honest with himself.

Thanks for taking the time to read this. I think I now know which direction my vote will go. Isn't it ironic - just when you think you know a candidate, he changes once again into an unknown quantity with wishy-washy convictions.

Ray Flaherty
Hampstead

Croteau for State Senate

To the editor:

Voters in the towns of Brentwood, Chester, Danville, Epping, Exeter, East Kingston, Fremont, Kingston, and Sandown have an opportunity to send a new voice to the State Senate to represent them. Carol Croteau is an excellent and well-qualified candidate for the District 23 State Senate seat.

By all accounts, this past session of the New Hampshire Legislature was the most divisive term in memory and produced disastrous results for the middle class families of the state. House Speaker William O'Brien led his followers down a path of extreme partisanship, determined to silence any opposition to his right-wing agenda and enforce the will of

his "Tea Party" zealots.

The incumbent Senator in District 23, Russell Prescott, was very much a party to the extremism of O'Brien and his "Tea Party" gang. Prescott was the prime sponsor of the so-called "Voter ID" bill, which passed into law despite the veto of Governor Lynch and the opposition of the League of Women Voters.

What's so difficult about showing an ID in order to vote, you might ask. Sure, it's easy for those of us who drive a car, or have a passport, but it's not so simple for everyone. The state should be encouraging more people to exercise their right to vote, rather than making it more difficult.

Ironically, Prescott's bill violates a cardinal principle of New Hampshire conservatism - trying to fix what is not broken! This law was simply unnecessary. There is not a single proven instance of voter fraud in the State of New Hampshire that the Secretary of State's office can document. All Prescott's bill has accomplished is to make voting more difficult for many of our citizens, and caused great confusion at polling places all across the state, making the job of voting clerks and town officials much more difficult.

Add to this, the expense for taxpayers of providing training for election officials, the need for various confusing forms with varied interpretations, and no doubt, the lawsuits and court cases that will result from this ill-conceived

and unnecessary law.

Prescott's bill arose not from any grass roots New Hampshire effort, but rather is the work of out-of-state organizations forcing their agenda upon us.

It's time to send a new state senator to Concord, one with energy and fresh ideas, who has the common-sense, moderate values that most New Hampshire citizens support, and is dedicated to making state government work for all New Hampshire citizens.

Please vote for Carol Croteau for Senate District 23 on Nov. 6.

Richard Uncles
Chester

Doesn't Want Average

To the editor:

"I don't want my town to be average."

Greg Hoppa, School Board member, spoke those words at the Sept. 25 School Board meeting. Those words continue to resonate with our family as we read about Hampstead Town budgets in the news.

I found it to be such a dichotomy of news when on page 4 of the Oct. 11 Tri-Town Times there was a letter to the editor extolling the programs and services of the Hampstead Public Library and on page 6 there was an article about how the Library has been asked to come in with a level-funded budget (same budget amount as last year), and what the negative impact of that decision

means. The cost of fuel, newspapers, magazines and the retirement fund are increasing, so level-funded means cuts.

I had the pleasure to talk with the Library Director, Debra Hiett, on Oct. 12 to discuss the level-funded budget impacts. We talked about all the services and programs the library provides. I think many of the residents are not aware of some of the offerings: Internet use, use of public meeting rooms, electronic reading devices, Movie Night and museum passes, to name just a few.

I asked Debra if these services are utilized more when the economy is down. Debra responded with a resounding yes!

She also shared with me a vision of the services she would love to bring into the library if she had the budget to spend for those services.

Here are some statistics in the emails from the Library's Happenings on how heavily the library is utilized: number of people visiting the Library from Jan. 1, 2012 through Sept. 30, 2012 = 46,099, or 23.4 per open hour!

Number of items (exclusive of electronic downloads) checked out from Jan. 1, 2012 through Sept. 30, 2012 = 57,020, or 28.9 per open hour!

The message from a majority of town officials is to cut and slash or impose level-funded budgets due to "tough economic times." In the Library's case, the need for services becomes higher during economic downturns, yet there will have to be cuts to these much needed services with a level-funded budget.

Also during these tough times, the need is even greater for making sure our children are given the best education possible so they are fully prepared for the employment opportunities in their futures. The children are our future, and a cost savings today can adversely impact their success!

The next public school budget work session is scheduled for Oct. 30. I too am for a fiscally responsible school budget. But my question to those who will ask and/or vote for cuts will be "That sounds like that will save money, but

continued on page 15

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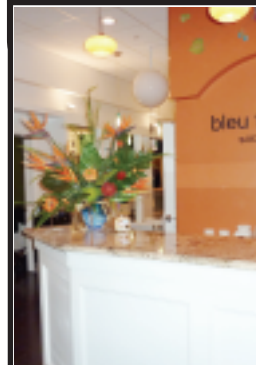


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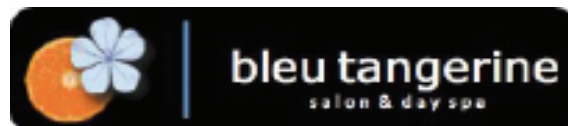
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Election Letters

The Tri-Town Times will not be accepting Letters to the Editor pertaining to the Nov. 6 General Election for its Nov. 1 edition, other than to correct inaccuracies in previous letters. It is the paper's policy that running election letters that week would not give candidates time to correct inaccuracies. The last edition for election letters will be Oct. 25, and the deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22.

Preliminary Town Budget Figures Mostly Hold to Line

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – There were no surprises at the first Department Heads' budget meeting, with the majority of budgets coming in approximately level funded. The selectmen had asked that budgets be level funded or reduced by 1 percent.

At the meeting Wednesday, Oct. 10, the Elections budget came in reduced by more than 50 percent because 2012 has four elections while 2013 will have only one. The Recycling and Waste Disposal budget was down slightly due to reduced tipping fees, the result of increased recycling.

The Library budget pleased the Budget Committee members who had asked that the Trustees line be broken out like other department budgets, and it was presented that way this year. The Library Trustee portion is down 1.05 per-

cent but the Library Functions portion increased by 2.57 percent, leaving the total budget up almost 2 percent. The increase is driven primarily by salary and Cost of Living Adjustment items.

Budget Committee member Matt Murphy questioned the increase in the cost of accountant, saying it might be time to seek a less expensive person. Library Trustee Treasurer Emily Reschberger replied that they were satisfied with the person they had and found her experienced and reliable.

One of the bigger budgets, Highway, is down slightly, but as Road Agent Jon Worthen pointed out, there are still three months to go and weather is always an unknown. Welfare is also down because of the decision to switch from an in-town director to Greater Derry Community Health Services (CHS) in Derry. The Recreation budget

came in just below level.

The Police Department budget saw the largest increase but it was less than 5 percent and driven largely by the \$15,000 increase in New Hampshire Retirement System costs downshifted from the state and \$16,000 in union increases. Police Chief Joe Beaudoin told the board he plans to bring on a part-time officer, and part of his cost increase can be found in the gasoline line that he raised by \$3,000.

Animal Control, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Town Clerk and Tax Collector, Cable, Fire Department, and Treasurer were all basically level funded. Conservation saw a slight increase but there is a question regarding the legal fees listed - whether they should come from the budget or the Land Purchase Fund. If those disappear from the budget, it would be level funded or below.

Planning Board and Zoning Enforcement/Building

Department budgets both saw modest increases but that was good news, as those stem from increased activity as the recession loosens its grip on the economy.

The health agencies supported by the town were level funded, but Murphy called for each agency to appear in person to defend its request. He said he questioned whether the town should be spending taxpayer money on charitable agencies.

Budget Committee member Chip Hastings said the system the selectmen had

established of routinely inviting several agencies in for a review, with their requests placed as warrant articles, was a better method, noting those agencies were supported because they provided needed services to residents.

Several budgets were either incomplete or missing. Cemetery didn't have final numbers but indicated the budget might increase because of the desire to purchase a dump truck to replace an aging vehicle, and tree and fence work had to be finished. Murphy took exception to putting fences

around the cemeteries, saying this was meeting an unfunded state mandate.

Murphy also suggested the fire department check dispatch options other than Derry, as Derry was requiring a 10 percent increase. There was some discussion and disagreement on the committee about whether the Jaws of Life equipment needed by the fire department should be a warrant article or included in the budget.

With three months to go before the end of the fiscal year, none of the budgets are fixed in stone.

Building Committee at Impasse

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – After reviewing the data from Hampstead balloting from 2003 through 2012, the Police Building Committee found itself no closer to a solution to how to persuade voters to support a new police station.

Steve Londrigan said the data showed voters were less likely to approve spending articles than non-spending articles; the downturn in the economy has not had a negative impact on voter approvals of spending articles; and participation in voting on a police station is higher than on other spending articles (99 percent of voters cast a vote on the station issue versus 95 percent on other spending issues).

The committee's Oct. 10 meeting was meant to decide whether to seek a bond issue for the station construction or establish a Capital Reserve Fund for it. Londrigan said, "If we believe we can change the dynamic, I think we should go for the bond."

Police Chief Joe Beaudoin said with a savings plan, the committee will be faced with convincing people to pay more over a long period of time and residents will question why they should spend money now but wait six years to see a station built.

The committee said it would be necessary to add at least 5 percent to the price of the station construction each year to address rising costs for labor and materials.

"That might be our selling point - that we have hit the lowest price possible and after this, we will be only looking at increases," Judy Graham said.

The committee polled its members and had no majority. The members then decided to go to the Board of Selectmen and solicit that board's viewpoint on which way the committee should proceed. Member Tony Ramsey noted the support of the selectmen was critical. Beaudoin said he would also get the opinion of his officers.

The committee will be setting up a work session with the selectmen.

In other business, Jim Stewart, Chris Dane and Neil Lynch have resigned from the committee.

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Budget Policies, Procedures Explained for School Board

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – Facilities, special education and preschool budgets will be the focus of an Oct. 30 school budget workshop, Assistant Superintendent Winfried Feneberg told the School Board last week. Public comments will be welcome at the meeting.

A budget session Oct. 16, after the Tri-Town Times goes to press, will focus on technology and curriculum budgets as well as the overall budget.

Feneberg used the Tues-

day, Oct. 9, meeting to go over the budget process and explain once again the surplus. He told the board the administration is currently assembling cost estimates for the 2013-2014 school year budget. Feneberg also reiterated why pure zero-based budgeting is not used. He noted, however, that in preparing the budget, most budget lines start at zero.

"The budget proposal is guided by the district's stated educational priorities, curricular and instructional needs, board policies and public input," he said.

Feneberg reminded the

board that if negotiations went as expected, there would be two warrant articles this year, one for a teachers' contract, the other for custodial staff.

Feneberg explained that money not spent from the current year's budget is forwarded to the next year's budget, thus reducing the needed tax appropriation. He said District Business Administrator George Stokinger estimates the surplus during the budget building session and then gives the actual surplus figure in June. Feneberg said if the surplus or unexpended funds shrink, taxes

to be raised for the next year go up.

He also explained that zero budgeting means all budget lines start at zero. Consideration is given to program effectiveness and efficiency as well as the desired level and quality of current services and short- and long-term planning.

Feneberg noted, however, that zero-based budgeting is not synonymous with zero tax increase. "We use a modified form of zero-based budgeting in the district that is applied to all the areas the administration has spending control over," he

said.

Feneberg said all requested expenditures must be justified and not based on the prior year's budget or on actual expenditures. All contractual services are budgeted based on actual or best estimate cost, taking into consideration the student population, state mandates and board policy.

He pointed out that tuition, not under the district's control, accounts for 30.3 percent of the budget. Hampstead high school students are tuitioned to Pinkerton Academy in Derry, which sets its tuition.

Salaries account for 36.7 percent of the budget, and benefits account for another 18.4 percent. Salaries and benefits are based on the contracts in force.

Transportation and utilities account for 3.8 percent and 3.5 percent respectively. That leaves roughly supplies and equipment at 4.1 percent of the total budget that the administrators can control. Fund transfers account for 3.2 percent.

"Where we are actually able to make cuts represents about 5 to 6 percent of the total budget," he said. "It is a very small portion."

School Board Seeks to Reach More Residents

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – As part of its revision of annual goals, the school board is looking to further its community outreach efforts on two fronts: within the school community and within Chester at large.

During a review of the goals, school board member Maria Veale suggested an annual get-together with Chester Academy teachers. Already this year the school board is planning a faculty appreciation event for teachers and staff of the school, and Veale suggested making it an annual occurrence.

As part of that discussion,

member Catherine Treanor said it would be valuable for the board to have more direct communication with teachers to find out what they and their students are up to. Treanor noted a recent meeting with band director Kurt Schweiss that impressed the board. She suggested quarterly meetings with the teachers, something important, she said, from performance review and general familiarity standpoints.

Principal Leslie Leahy said that while she was amenable to such meetings, she has been working with the technology department to potentially record classes and happenings at the school that would be of interest to the school board, and send those recordings on

to members.

Member Mike Romick praised Leahy's idea.

Noting low public turnout at school board meetings, Romick wondered aloud whether there was any way to encourage more participation or to reach out to the public.

Member Valerie Weider said such meetings would be especially important leading up to budget season. Usually when people come to meetings to note concern over budget items, it's already late in the game, she noted.

While some discussion focused on having the school board attend annual open houses or another school event that would have built in participation, others noted that the goal

was to reach out to a broader audience, those not already involved in school affairs.

Leahy suggested the board could attend the annual senior breakfast the student council hosts.

Molly Qualters of the Chester Academy Parent Teacher Association (PTA) suggested joining forces by

having the school board attend a PTA meeting to reach a few more people.

While definite plans were not nailed down at the Wednesday, Oct. 10, meeting, the board agreed to add public outreach, including two annual meet and greets, to its goals and work on ways to accomplish them.

In other business, in an effort to streamline the signing of manifests, the board voted to allow payments to be released after being signed by two members of the board, rather than a majority. Veale and Weider agreed to serve in that role, as they could most easily stop by the school to sign documents.

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PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

"It takes time to catch up with the other principal in the morning to see what has happened, but so far it has been manageable," Feneberg said. "However, it has been a noticeable strain on the principals the days they are actu-

“We have a dedicated core of administrators who have willingly stepped up and are trying to make it work as smoothly as possible,” Feneberg said. “The one area of concern that I have right now is the staff evaluation and the supervision of staff by the principals. The teachers need the administrators to assist them and to evaluate them and help them with providing the quality of education expected that leads to a school of excellence. Scarpati had 16 teachers she met with four times a year and was available to for assistance

Whereas last year between 8:30 and 9:15 a.m. he was expected to conduct an electronic walk-through, this year between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. he is trying to catch up with discipline issues that need attention. Last year from 9:15 to 10:15

Last year he did class walk-throughs, caught up with students and monitored instruction and ensured teacher needs were being met between 10:15 and 10:30 a.m., and from then through lunch (12:40 p.m.), he

His afternoons last year were devoted to reviewing attendance data, parental issues, meeting with teachers, teacher evaluation, setting up pre-and post-observation meetings and conducting observations, as well as attending special education meetings, followed by bus duty and final review of the day with the principal and attending to any issues

"We are trying to use our resources as best we can, but there is less oversight and review and we are stretching our administrators," he said.

The group has been busy with fundraising and has many more fundraisers

Sandown welfare director Lynne Blaisdell said rent is the number one expenditure in the town's public assistance budget, and just that day four cases came across her desk. Blaisdell explained that some of the people coming to her for help have no built-in sup-

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Police Officer to Attend Chester Booster Club Dance

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – The next Booster Club Dance will be held at Chester Academy and will be attended by a Chester police officer, according to principal Leslie Leahy.

The decision comes after the last Booster Club dance,

in which a boy attacked a peer. According to school administration and police, the altercation was quickly subdued by chaperones, but a student at the dance called his parent, who in turn called the police. The event then prompted some concern from parents.

Police chief Bill Burke

said everything was handled appropriately, and agreed with administration that though the incident was regrettable, it wasn't any different than any other such altercation dealt with in the past.

Those involved in the encounter have been banned from future dances this year.

The incident has prompted the school to pull the Booster Club dances under its umbrella. While in the past the dances were separate from the school and its authority, from now on the kids attending will be held to the same code of conduct they adhere to in school.

Leahy informed the

school board at its Wednesday, Oct. 10, meeting that to get the dances off to a good start again, a police officer will be present. She noted, however, that between the cost of the officer and the DJ, the profits will be used up, so she has decided to donate the funds for the police officer from the prin-

cipal's account.

"They do behave differently when there's a police officer in the hallway," said Leahy.

A dance is planned for January but no decision yet has been made on whether the officer will be a continued presence.

ATV Riders Injured on Rail Trail in Sandown

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – A Hampton woman was hospitalized Sunday, Oct. 7, after crashing her All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) while traveling the Rockingham Rail Trail.

According to New Hamp-

shire Fish and Game, Katie Wilson, 30, of Hampton was traveling in Sandown around 3:30 p.m. when she sharply hit the brakes when approaching a bridge and subsequently rolled her machine. The ATV landed on top of her, causing serious injuries.

Adding to the accident were her father, Todd Bray, 67, also of Hampton, and her son. According to reports, Bray was following closely behind Wilson and could not stop before striking her rolled ATV. Wilson's son, a minor, was tossed from the back of Bray's vehicle.

Conservation officers Justin Ferland and Geoffrey Pushee with Fish and Game as well as Sandown police, fire and rescue responded to the accident. Emergency services were called to the scene by fellow riders and family members.

All three victims were

transported to Parkland Medical Center in Derry and have since been released.

According to Fish and Game, all three riders involved were wearing helmets and proper riding attire.

"This serious incident

underscores the importance of always wearing a helmet when operating an ATV or snow machine. Katie's helmet sustained a severe impact and likely saved her life," said Ferland.

The accident remains under investigation by Fish and Game.

Chester Academy Does Well on Adequacy Report

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – Chester Academy received a passing grade this month on the first edition of the New Hampshire Adequacy Report.

The New Hampshire Department of Education (DOE) has been devising a way to grade schools in the state to make sure they are performing, and on Oct. 1 released the data for the 2011-2012 school year.

In 2009 the state legislature passed Senate Bill 180. This bill, now law, was the last of a three-part task assigned to the DOE by the Supreme Court, to create an accountability system for guaranteeing that schools

are offering the "opportunity for an adequate education." The other two parts of that task dealt with defining and costing out that accountability system.

Because of that legislation, a group of teachers and a Commissioner's Task Force "has been working to develop a system to satisfy the law, be fair and not be burdensome for either schools or the DOE," according to the state.

The Task Force chose a two-pronged approach to defining accountability, an input-based system and a performance-based system.

The input-based system asks that school officials submit a narrative explanation of compliance with

each of 12 specified "adequacy" standards. Those adequacy standards include: English/language arts and reading, mathematics, science, social studies, arts education, world language, health education, physical education, technology education, information and communication technologies, school year, and minimum credits for a high school diploma.

The performance-based system seeks to document academic achievement and growth. The system uses state assessments including the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) tests as well as assessments geared toward those with significant disabilities and

English as a second language students. The performance-based system, according to DOE, differentiates between subgroups of students, such as those with learning disabilities.

The performance-based system calculates a "score" based on an average of points earned in each of the indicator categories, which, for elementary and middle schools, include reading growth, mathematics growth, science index, writing index, assessment participation and excessive absence.

Reading and mathemat-

ics growth account for 60 percent of that total score.

To prove they are offering an adequate education, the Task Force said schools must meet predetermined standards in the input-based system or earn an overall performance score of 2.3 (for elementary and middle schools) in the performance-based system.

Chester's performance score was a 2.7 and thus met criteria in both systems. The report deemed that Chester Academy "provides the opportunity for an adequate education."

The minimum score for a high school is 2.1. Pinkerton received a score of 2.6 and was deemed to provide an "adequate education."

The report comes on the heels of the results of the NECAP tests, which had characterized Chester Academy as a school in need of improvement. Administrators across New Hampshire have largely discredited the test and DOE recently applied for a federal waiver from some of its provisions.

To review all New Hampshire school results visit: www.education.nh.gov.



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Sandown Schools Do Well on Adequacy Report

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

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The other parts address defining and costing out the accountability system.

Because of that legislation, a group of teachers and a Commissioner's Task Force "has been working to develop a system to satisfy the law, be fair and not be burdensome for either schools or the DOE," state officials said.

What the Task Force came up with is a two-pronged approach to defining accountability, an input-based system and a performance-based system.

The input-based system, asks that school officials submit a narrative explanation of compliance with

each of 12 specified "adequacy" standards. Administrators fill out a survey that is reviewed later by the DOE. Those adequacy standards include English/language arts and reading, mathematics, science, social studies, arts education, world language, health education, physical education, technology education, information and communication technologies, school year, and minimum credits for a high school diploma.

The performance-based system seeks to document academic achievement and growth. It uses state assessments including the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) as well as those geared toward

children with significant disabilities and English as a second language students. The performance-based system, according to the DOE, differentiates between subgroups of students, such as those with learning disabilities.

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tion and excessive absence. Reading and mathematics growth account for 60 percent of that total score.

To prove that they are offering an adequate education, the Task Force determined that schools must meet predetermined standards in the input-based system or earn an overall performance score of 2.3 (for elementary and middle schools) in the performance-based system.

Sandown North received a 2.6 on the performance portion as well as meeting

the input based portion.

Central received a 3.3 on the performance portion as well as meeting the requirements in the input based portion.

Last year Sandown North was the only school in the state to be recognized by the federal Department of Education as a National Blue Ribbon School. The award is bestowed on the most successful schools in the country.

To review all New Hampshire school results, visit: www.education.nh.gov.

Labbe Sentenced to Four to Eight Years for Torturing Dogs

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – A former Sandown woman convicted of torturing two of her ex-fiancee's dogs has been sentenced to four to eight years for animal cruelty.

On Oct. 12, Jamie Labbe, 34, formerly of 223 North Road, was sentenced to seven and a half to 15 years. Another three and a half to seven years were suspended for good behavior.

Labbe was convicted in August of four counts of

attempted cruelty to animals, one count of cruelty to animals and one count of criminal mischief after forcing various objects down the throats of two German Shepherds belonging to her then fiancée, Kurt Krohn.

According to indictments, Labbe hurt the dogs between February and April of 2011, but evidence obtained by police indicated that the abuse had been ongoing for an unknown length of time. Labbe was convicted of inducing the dogs to ingest a metal ciga-

rette lighter, metal shower head, a 4-inch metal bolt and a metal conduit clamp, but court documents also revealed that Labbe exposed the dogs to brake fluid, antifreeze, nails and a magic marker, and that she verbally threatened the dogs' lives, Krohn's life and the life of Krohn's former girlfriend.

One dog had to be euthanized following the abuse. The other survived.

Labbe, who pleaded not guilty to all charges, was facing up to 42 years in state prison for the felonies.

Murder

continued from page 1

glia and over the course of hours of interviews, his story fell apart.

According to police, based on Mazzaglia's statements they are positive he murdered Marriott. The investigation led police to where he left the body, and where he parked her car after and walked home.

A search of Peirce Island in Portsmouth began after Mazzaglia was interviewed. The public park, flanked by the fast moving Piscataqua River, is heavily used by residents during the day as a place to run their dogs. The search of the area and water has not turned up a body.

On Saturday, Oct. 13, Assistant Attorney General James Vara said in a press conference that the Dover Police Department had obtained enough information not only to arrest Mazzaglia but to state that Marriott was dead.

Mazzaglia graduated from UNH with a degree in theater. On his personal website, which has since been taken down, Mazzaglia describes himself as "an experienced actor, writer and fight choreographer who has been working professionally and non-professionally throughout the theaters of southern New Hampshire for many years." A black belt in karate, Mazzaglia taught martial arts.

It is alleged that Mazzaglia strangled or suffocated Marriott.

Chester Police ran the missing person investigation, but turned the matter over when it changed into a murder investigation.

While the specifics of the relationship aren't clear, Burke said Marriott was acquainted with Mazzaglia. The chief noted that an 18-year-old girl was also hanging out with Mazzaglia on Oct. 9, but she didn't offer any information on the investigation.

Authorities obtained cell phone records and were able to pinpoint Marriott's last call, to a friend in Westborough. There was no indication from that call that anything was wrong, but not long after, her phone went dead. The FBI was able to determine that the last call came from the building Mazzaglia lived in.

Burke said the search was a coordinated effort with all parties working together to find the missing young woman as quickly as possible. He praised the spirit of cooperation of all involved, but noted that everyone wished there was a different ending to the story.

Burke said the thoughts of all those involved go out to Marriott's family and friends, and he hopes her body can be found to provide closure.

Mazzaglia was charged with second degree murder and arraigned on Monday morning.



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Sandown Town Wide Yard Sale Arrives This Saturday

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – Drive-ways, front yards and parking lots dotting side streets and main thoroughfares will again be host to a yard sale's dream on Saturday, Oct. 20, as Sandown hosts its Town Wide Yard Sale. And according to reports from previous Town Wide Yard Sales, the buyers are many regardless of the weather, a testament to what has become a successful fall tradition.

The event runs from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The Sandown Parks and Recreation Department has hosted and organized the event for nearly a decade. Sellers pay a registration fee to take part and by doing so

are listed on a map and directories. Registration fees go toward supporting community programs such as the Sandown Food Pantry and the Senior Luncheon.

This year more than 40 locations are participating, said recreation director Deb Brown.

"We have enthusiasts who return every year, people who go to each location and even people who have sent me a postcard from Ohio wanting to know when the event will be held so they could include it on their fall trip to New England," said Brown.

While estimates on how many people search the town for deals are hard to come by, Brown said her best guess is hundreds. She

added that she always gets good feedback from sellers.

This year, in addition to the many residences, there are a couple of special spots to visit.

The Sandown Historical Society is participating, and at the same time is recruiting members and improving its facilities at the depot. Because of that they're looking to sell a few of their less valuable pieces to make more room.

Society member Bruce Robinson said there are surplus or redundant items at the depot, and the yard sale seemed like a good way to see if they could find a home elsewhere. He joked that if anyone is looking for railroad spikes, the depot had enough of them to lay

about a quarter mile of track. They're also offering refreshments.

Robinson said visitors would also have the opportunity to peruse the permanent items in the depot's collection and to learn what the society has been up to.

The Sandown Lions Club is always a popular spot on the yard sale agenda, and this year the group hopes to sell a lot. Earlier this year, Fred and Kathi Soule's property was damaged when a speeding automobile left Main Street and plowed through their shed. That shed - formerly a gas station and later an ice cream shop - housed much of the Lions Club's yard sale wares. While Fred Soule noted that the fire depart-

ment was more than helpful after the accident, some of the inventory was lost and the remaining items lost their storage space.

This year, instead of setting up at town hall as in the past, the Lions will set up shop at the Soule property at 503 Main St.

The Friends of the Sandown Public Library is holding a book and bake sale during the yard sale's hours. Also on sale that day is a new fundraiser for the Friends. Together with O'Neil Cinemas, the Friends group is offering \$66 worth of movie tickets, refreshments and other cinema items for \$30.

And Bruchetti's Pizzeria is again offering a free slice of pizza to yard salers who

use the coupon the shop has in the sale map/ directory.

The map/directory packet, which will help buyers navigate the sales, can be obtained by visiting Town Hall on Thursday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and at the library just down the street on both Thursday and Saturday. There's a \$1 suggested donation for the hard copy, which will go toward stocking the food pantry's shelves.

Plans are to also post the map at www.sandown.us.

Ed Mencis and his Chubb's Fried Dough mobile will be stationed at the historical society Saturday. Mencis often uses his fryers for good causes and this time around he's donating some of the proceeds to the historical society.

Time to Decorate Wreaths for Annual Festival

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The ninth annual Hampstead Educational Foundation's (H.E.F.) Festival of Wreaths is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 3, during the Hampstead Mothers Club's annual Craft Fair at Hampstead Middle School.

Coordinator Mary Preble said help is needed with the festival. "This is the only fundraiser that we

have to fund the programs we provide for the schools," she said. "We are always looking for new and unusual wreaths. Gift cards and gift certificates as well as services can even be put on a small wreath - no crafting involved."

H.E.F. is a non-profit organization whose mission is to enhance the educational experience of Hampstead's children. Each year the foundation grants money to projects at Central

and Hampstead Middle schools that benefit students. Among the funded projects over the last few years are: Central School's multicultural musical costumes, an iPod Touch for a classroom, the computer program "Brain Pop" for second graders, the Starry Night presentation at HMS, Central's Invention Convention, and three \$500 scholarships to seniors from

Hampstead annually.

Persons interested in decorating a wreath will receive a blank grapevine or green wreath. "Then it is up to you to determine the theme," Preble said. "Themes are as varied as people's imaginations. Themes in the past have used holidays, seasons, sports, animals, movies - and last year, one of the most popular was a PEZ decorated wreath. If

you can use a glue gun, you can create a wreath."

The completed wreaths should be returned to Hampstead Middle School Thursday, Nov. 1, or Friday, Nov. 2. On Saturday, Nov. 3, Craft Fair attendees can purchase raffle tickets and try their luck at winning a favorite wreath. All the wreaths are hung for view-

ing along the school's hallway walls, with fair-goers depositing raffle tickets into a container at the wreath they would like to win. The event usually offers about 50 wreaths.

To get a wreath to decorate, contact Preble at 329-4604 or email her at festivalofwreaths@comcast.net

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TRI-TOWN HAPPENINGS

CHESTER

Democrats

The Chester Democratic Committee will meet Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. at the Chester Public Library. Anyone registered to vote as a Democrat in Chester is welcome.

Electronic Recycling

New Hampshire Lions Camp Pride, along with the Chester Lions, will hold a charity electronic and white goods recycling event on Saturday, Oct. 27, at G & P Pizzeria, 692 Raymond Road. All surrounding towns are invited to participate in this benefit for Camp Pride, a 501c (3) camp for individuals with special needs. For more information, call Jeri at 883-8565 or Sam at 329-5603."

Supervisors of Checklist

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet Saturday, Oct. 27, from 11 a.m. to noon to register to vote, change name, party or address at Town Hall, 84 Chester St. Residents may also register to vote at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours, with the exception of 10 days before an election. The Presidential Election will take place Nov. 6 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Genealogy

A workshop takes place at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22,

at the Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., on Genealogy Resources at the Chester Public Library. Library Director Tim Sheehan will provide a 40-minute overview of the library's genealogy collection. Handouts will be provided. Individual sessions may also be arranged by appointment. For more information, contact Tim at 887-3404.

Chester Dance

On Friday, Oct. 19, a dance for fifth through eighth grade Chester residents takes place at the Chester Multi Purpose Room. This dance will benefit student travel with the People to People Student Ambassador program. Tickets are \$5. at the door. For questions or to chaperone or donate individual snack items or drinks for this event, contact Kristine at 887-2352.

Cabaret Show

The Chester Congregational & Baptist Church will present Tony Award-winner Tammy Grimes and Friends: A Cabaret Show on Friday, Nov. 9, and Saturday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. at Stevens Memorial Hall, 1 Chester Street. Proceeds from the show will support the work of the church in Chester and the larger community. Tickets are \$25 each and include a reception following the show at The

Kent House of Chester. Tickets can be purchased in advance through the church office at 887-4799 on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., or online at www.chesternhchurch.org. Online purchase has a small fee.

Child Find

The Chester School District will hold Child Find Clinics at Chester Academy on Oct. 29 and on March 25, 2013 from 1 to 3 p.m. The purpose of Child Find is to screen the developmental skills of children between the ages of 3 to 6 - those not enrolled in first grade - who may be in need of special education services. The screenings are by school personnel and concern motor skills, speech and language, vision, hearing, and pre-academics. Any parent who thinks his or her child may have difficulties or a delay in any of these areas is asked to call 887-3621, ext. 146 to make an appointment. This service is free and open to all Chester residents. All results are confidential.

Adult Volleyball

Adult Volleyball takes place Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall multipurpose room, 84 Chester St. The recreational-level program is free, with pickup teams on a gym floor with two nets. For

more information, contact Sharon Mulrennan at sharon@chesternhrec.org or call Chester Recreation at 887-5773.

Storytimes

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., offers free Storytimes with stories and crafts every Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. with Mrs. Emily. For more information, call 887-3404.

HAMPSTEAD

Christmas Market

The annual Christmas Market will be open Thursday, Nov. 1; Friday, Nov. 2; Saturday, Nov. 3; Thursday, Nov. 8; Friday, Nov. 9 and Saturday, Nov. 10, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at East Hampstead Union Church, 225 East Main St. (Route 121A), just south of Route 111. Items include handicrafts, angels, holiday decorations, pillows, collectibles, novelties, and gifts for pets. A cookie walk, soup & sandwich luncheon, baked goods, and refreshments will be available throughout each day. Proceeds benefit the Operating Fund of this historic church. The Sandown Community "Giving Tree" will also be displayed at the fair to help local families make ends meet this holiday season. Help fulfill a child's gift request that has been hung on the tree. Return gifts to the church before Christmas. The church is chair lift accessible. For more information, call 378-0683 or e-mail: ehuc@comcast.net.

Republican Event

On Wednesday, Oct. 24, Republican candidates for State Representative from Rockingham District 13 (Hampstead and Kingston) and District 34 (Atkinson, Hampstead, Kingston and Plaistow) will be conducting a "Meet the Candidates" evening at Hampstead Town Hall, 11 Main St., from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Republican candidates for District 13 are: Regina Birdsell, John Sedensky, Kevin St. James, and Ken Weyler. The Republican candidate for District 34 is Jeff Olinsky.

Supervisors of Checklist

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Hall on Satur-

day, Oct. 27, between 11 and 11:30 a.m. to register new voters and update the checklist. Residents must bring some type of photo ID. This will be the last day to register with the Supervisors or at the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Residents may also register to vote on Election Day, Nov. 6, with a photo ID. Those who do not have an approved photo ID the voter will be permitted to vote after signing a "challenged voter affidavit" form.

Book Discussions

The Third Thursday Book Group of the Hampstead Public Library will discuss "Vie De France: Sharing Food, Friendship, and a Kitchen in the Loire Valley" by James Haller at 1 p.m. Nov. 15. The group will welcome the author to its meeting. The Non-Fiction Book Group at the library meets at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, to discuss "Looking for Alaska" by Peter Jenkins. Copies of both books are available at the library's front desk, and newcomers are always welcome.

Christmas Craft Fair

Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St., hosts its annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Kate at 329-6372.

Trick or Treat

Trick or Treat will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Halloween, Oct. 31.

Mothers' Club Craft Fair

The non-profit Hampstead Mothers' Club's 27th annual Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hampstead Middle School on School Street, off Route 121. Handmade crafts are offered from over 70 artisans selected by a jury, along with activities for children, a full food menu and a Raffle Table. Admission is free.

Special Education Parents

The Hampstead Special Education Parents Group presents "A Survival Guide for Ordinary Parents of Special Kids" by Gina Gallagher and Patricia Konjoian, auth-

ors of "Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid," at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, at the Hampstead Middle School Library. Parents, school staff and community members are invited to attend. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the front desk of the Hampstead Public Library. For more information, visit www.hampstead-sepg.org or email info@hampsteadsepg.org.

Weird Science

The Hampstead Public Library presents "Weird Science" for kids in kindergarten through grade 4 on Wednesday, Oct. 24, from 4 to 5 p.m. to make slime, ooblik and invisible ink. Prepare to get messy. No preregistration is required. For more information, call the library at 329-6411 or email pfalconer@hampstead.lib.nh.us.

Senior Trip

The Hampstead Seniors are planning a trip to the Venus de Milo restaurant in Swansea, Mass., on Wednesday, Nov. 15, for a show and luncheon buffet. The trip will leave St. Anne's parking lot at 9 a.m. return around 5 p.m. Sign-up is Wednesday, Oct. 24, from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Meeting House on Emerson Avenue. Age restriction is 62 years and older. Cost is \$19 per person for Hampstead residents and \$24 per person for non-residents. Payment is due at sign-up. Hampstead seniors get first choice; all others will be placed on a waiting list. Proof of residence is required. For more information, call Clea Barry at 329-9550.

ServiceLink

On Thursday, Oct. 18, at 9:45 a.m., a representative from ServiceLink Resource Center of Rockingham County will be at the Hampstead Public Library to present a free overview of the organization and how it can help families. ServiceLink is a source for information on aging, adult disabilities /chronic illness and family caregiving. It has no fee or eligibility requirements. Help is offered to connect families with services such as in-home help, Medicare and Medicaid, legal and financial assistance, and wellness programs.



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Author Visit

Author Michael Tougias will present a free narrated slide presentation titled "400 Miles Down the Connecticut River" at the Hampstead Public Library on Tuesday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m. The program is based on the author's book "River Days: Exploring the Connecticut River from Source to Sea." A question and answer period and book signing will follow the presentation. The program is sponsored by the New Hampshire Humanities Council.

Colored Pencil Workshop

On Saturday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m. to noon, the Hampstead Public Library

will host a Colored Pencil Drawing Workshop. Area artist and teacher Ann Perkins will present the workshop. Bring paper and colored pencils. This workshop is for adults and for children ages 13 and up. Sign up at the library's front desk, or by calling 329-6411 or emailing programsH-PL@gmail.com.

Hoops Tryouts

Tryouts for Hampstead Hoops Basketball will be held at Hampstead Middle School for local students in grades 3 through 8. This is not a school-sponsored event. Third and fourth grade boys tryouts are Oct. 22 from 6 to 7 p.m. Fifth and sixth grade boys tryouts

are Oct. 25 from 6 to 7 p.m. Seventh and eighth grade boys tryouts are Oct. 25 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Third and fourth grade girls tryouts are Oct. 24 from 6 to 7 p.m. Fifth and sixth grade girls tryouts are Oct. 24 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Seventh and eighth grade girls tryouts are Oct. 24 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For questions, contact Kim Colbert at mikimco@comcast.net.

SANDOWN**Lions' Sale**

The Sandown Lions, in conjunction with the Town Wide Yard Sale, will hold its "Sale Into Fall" Yard Sale and Flea Market Saturday, Oct. 20, and Sunday, Oct.

21, rain or shine, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day at 503 Main St. (Route 121A). A recent motor vehicle accident demolished the club's inventory storage building so everything must go. No donations of items can be accepted. Offered are toys, electronics, appliances, furniture, household goods, sporting goods including ski equipment, books, and tools. Proceeds will be used toward Lions charities.

Voter Registration

The Supervisors of the Checklist will meet at Sandown Town Hall, 320 Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 11 to 11:30 a.m. for additions to and corrections of the checklist. This

is the last day to register and make changes before the Presidential Election. New voters may also register at the Town Tax Collector's Office during regular business hours or at the Supervisors' table on the day of voting with proper identification.

Open Farm Day

Patch Wood Farm holds its second annual Open Farm Day, hosted by the Hooves, Paws and Claws 4-H Club on Saturday, Oct. 27, from noon to 4 p.m. The event includes pony rides, horseshoe and pumpkin painting, raffles, a bake sale, dog training demonstrations, a petting zoo, and a meet and greet with the

club's recently rescued horse. The farm is at 42 Hawkewood Road. For more information, visit www.patchwoodfarms.com.

Timberlane Alumni

Timberlane High School is celebrating Homecoming Oct. 26, which is also senior night for the football, cheer, and band programs. Festivities start at 6:30 p.m. at the football field. Timberlane football is looking for football alumni to line the field for the current players; alumni are asked to meet by the field by 6:30 p.m. Game day giveaways, fireworks, and full concessions are planned. Bring a non-perishable item for the Timber-

continued on page 15

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YARD SALE

10/20, 8-1, 187 Hampstead Rd., Derry. Sponsored by the Holy Cross Church youth group. Bake sale and raffles as well.

YARD SALE

58 Seasons Lane, Londonderry. Sat., Oct. 20, 9-4. Toys, kids clothing and shoes, sports equipment, and housewares.

Sat., Oct. 20, 9-2. 36 Parmenter Road, Londonderry. Furniture, various household items, children’s toys. No early birds please.

YARD SALE

The Town of Sandown is having there “Town-Wide” Yard Sale Saturday Oct. 20, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

WANTED

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Deadline for placing ads is Monday at 3 p.m. for that week’s publication.

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Happenings

continued from page 13

lane Football Boosters' food drive to benefit the Holy Angels food pantry; boxes will be at the main gate.

Holiday Auction

Sandown North School hosts a Holiday Auction on Friday, Dec. 7, from 6 to 10 p.m. Numerous opportunities are available for parents to be involved. The next planning meeting is Thursday, Oct. 25, at 6 p.m. at Sandown Central School. For more information, contact Darci at darcianben@yahoo.com or Kara at cheercoachkara@yahoo.com.

Senate Staff Visit

U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, R-NH, announces that

a member of her staff will be holding office hours from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 22, at the Sandown Town Offices, 320 Main St. to assist New Hampshire citizens with official business. Residents interested in meeting with a member of the Senator's staff should stop by the town office during the times listed or call Simon Thomson at 622-7979 to schedule an appointment. The Senator will not be in attendance.

Senior Harvest Luncheon

Sandown residents age 60 and older are invited to attend the 17th annual Harvest Luncheon on Saturday, Nov. 3, at the Route 111 Village Square Restaurant in Hampstead. The event features a full turkey dinner

with all the fixings and musical entertainment. This event is offered free and is limited to Sandown residents only. A spouse who is not age 60 may accompany you. Requests for special diets and guests other than a spouse cannot be accommodated. Proper identification may be required. Pre-registration is required by Oct. 29. Space is limited and registration may be closed prior to Oct. 29 if the maximum number is reached. No walk-in registrations at the door are accepted. To register, call the recreation office at 887-1872. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m.

Spooky Walk

Sandown Boy Scout Troop 268 will again host a Spooky Walk in the San-

down Town Forest on Fremont Road on Oct. 20. The proceeds will help fund a trailer to house camping equipment. The event starts at 5 p.m. with a "Not so Spooky Walk" until 7 p.m., followed by a Very Spooky Walk until 9 p.m. Concessions will be available. Tickets will be sold at the gate. Rain date is Oct. 27, and will be announced at <http://troop268sandown.myscoutlink.com>. To donate to the Boy Scout trailer, mail donations to Troop 268, PO Box 555, Sandown, NH 03873.

Chess Club

Chess Club meets Thursday, Oct. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sandown Public Library with chess master Monty Cole. All ages are welcome.

Home Decorating

Tips for affordable holiday decorating are offered Wednesday, Oct. 24, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sandown Public Library with certified home decorator, redesigner and stager Kerri Durkee of Functional Home Designs. Durkee will demonstrate holiday tablescapes, centerpieces and mantels.

Halloween Party

The Sandown Public Library hosts a Halloween Party for preschool through 1st Grade at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, with stories at the library, followed by a costume parade to Town Hall, where the Mothers Club will offer spooky snacks, music, and a craft.

Cribbage & Cards

The Sandown Public Library invites residents to stop in on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and learn how to play cribbage, whist, 45s or gin rummy. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Letters

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please explain the impact that cut will have to our children's education and future."

Residents of Hampstead, please consider the impact of cuts or level-funded budgets will have to the Library and to the schools. If you too don't want your town to be average, let your voice be heard by the town officials!

Suzanne Finocchiaro
Hampstead

Patriotism Questioned

To the editor:

It seems that no one in the Romney camp or press is recalling that President Carter refused to allow the Marine Guards of our USA Iranian Embassy to have, hold, own or load any ammunition, thus allowing wide-open, unfettered entry for the Iranian "students."

Are Presidents and State Departments like we have now encouraging disaster? Are they simply helping the enemy? I have to wonder!

Do I question their competence? Never! Do I question their loyalty or patriotism? Yes!

Rob Brown
Chester Street
Chester

Vote for Shea-Porter

To the editor:

During the 2011-2012 Session of Congress, Representative Frank Guinta voted No

each time on the Constitutional Amendment proposal to overturn the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United. He believes corporations are people.

He voted for the bill (H.R. 5) that would limit the ability of malpractice victims to hold the medical industry liable for harm.

Rep. Guinta voted Yes on a bill (H.R. 4480) to delay the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from completing three air pollution rules; cede more federal lands to fossil fuel companies; decrease wildlife habitats; and fast track drilling permits. He voted for a bill (H.R. 4348) to stop the EPA's attempt to regulate coal ash, which is hazardous waste.

Rep. Guinta does not represent me and my values in Congress. Carol Shea-Porter will represent New Hampshire interests and values in the House of Representatives. She can be trusted to make good moral decisions, and will not be bought by corporate lobbyists. She is opposed to the Republican voucher-care privatization legislation that can hurt seniors. She will preserve Social Security.

During Carol Shea-Porter's four years in Congress, she voted for the GI Bill of Rights, increased Pell grants for students, and got the VA to give New Hampshire veterans better access to in-state medical care. She worked for clean air, water and energy, and for safe food.

As our Representative, she brought construction jobs to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and helped to secure

funding for the Portsmouth Memorial Bridge. She supported investment in infrastructure.

She voted to stop sending jobs overseas, and voted to save the auto industry. She was against the Wall Street bailout. She believes government must not interfere with a person's medical decisions.

Carol Shea-Porter will be our hard-working and honest New Hampshire Representative.

Please consider voting for her and return her to Congress.

Thank you.
Elinor Y. Robie
Hampstead

Voting Rights

To the editor:

Over the last several years the GOP, working with ALEC, the American Legislative Exchange Council, has passed legislation designed to limit the right to vote of specific groups in the electorate. In one state with a large urban black population that typically takes advantage of early voting allowed in that state on the Sunday before Election Day, that Sunday was excluded from the early voting period. In Texas, where there is a large college student population, gun permits are an acceptable form of identification, but college student IDs are not.

New Hampshire's Legislature specifically went after college students as well.

Many of the more egregious provisions of these anti-voter laws have been struck

down by the courts, including in New Hampshire.

I believe it is the job of our government to protect the hard won right of every citizen to vote, yet in 19 states, laws have been passed in an attempt to bias this year's election in favor of one political party's candidates.

The proponents of these laws have admitted in front of the TV cameras and in court testimony that the "voter fraud" they claim to be fighting does not exist. And companies that have been paid millions of dollars to assist in these efforts have been caught repeatedly submitting fraudulent documentation to request that legitimate voters be stricken from the roles.

Our State Senator and each of the incumbent Republican State Representatives voted in favor of these voter law changes. Governor Lynch vetoed the bill, but our Republican-dominated Legislature was able to over-ride that veto.

For information on voting rights, go to www.866ourvote.org

If you feel your right to vote is being impeded by election officials, politicians, or anyone else, call 1-866-OUR-VOTE (866-687-8683) for advice and assistance.

I ask you to support our right to vote on Nov. 6 and consider withholding your vote from these Representatives. In today's Super PAC-dominated world, our vote is our only voice. Make your voice count.

Thank you.
Chris Kenney
Chester

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a hearing of the Hampstead Board of Adjustment, Nov. 1, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building, 11 Main Street, Hampstead, NH for the following:

To consider the request of Loon Island Realty Trust - Nelson Blinn and Lawrence Buswell, Trustees - for a Special Exception to the terms of Article IV Section 5:6 of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance to permit seasonal conversion for property located at 80 Holiday Ln., Hampstead, NH in the Recreational Zone, Map 3 Parcel 152. Continued from October.

To consider the request of Scott W. Lancaster for a variance to the terms of Article III Section 3:4C of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance to permit a 2-lot subdivision with frontage on a private road for property located at 18 Lighthouse Ln., Hampstead, NH in the Recreational Zone, Map 11 Parcel 60. Continued from October.

To consider the request of Matthew Lannan for a Special Exception to the terms of Article IV Section 6 of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance to permit a home occupation - carpentry - for property located at 515 Main St., Hampstead, NH in the Residential Zone Map 2 Parcel 41.

To consider the request of Edward Delorey for a Special Exception to the terms of Article I Section 2:1B of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance to permit the demolition of a seasonal dwelling and replacement with a seasonal dwelling and for a variance to permit the house to be located within 20.3 ft. from the road for property located at 275 Pond View Dr., Hampstead, NH in the Recreational Zone, Map 11 Parcel 57.

To consider the request of Robert Moseley for an Appeal of an Administrative Decision of the Chief Building Official in relation to Article IV Section 6 of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance for property located at 19 Old Forge Rd., Hampstead, NH in the Residential Zone, Map 8 Parcel 27-1.

To consider the request of Robert Moseley for a Special Exception to the terms of Article IV Section 6 of the Hampstead Zoning Ordinance to permit a home occupation - landscaping business - for property located at 19 Old Forge Rd., Hampstead, NH in the Residential Zone, Map 8 Parcel 27-1.

Discussion with Chief Building Official.

Kristin Yasenka, Chairman
Hampstead Board of Adjustment

The journey through breast cancer isn't easy.

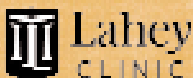
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